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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/586,864	07/21/2006	Hiroshi Kigawa	294031US3PCT	1574
22850	7590	03/17/2009		
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER PICO, ERIC E				
ART UNIT 3654		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 03/17/2009		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/586,864

Applicant(s)

KIGAWA ET AL.

Examiner

ERIC PICO

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/21/2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

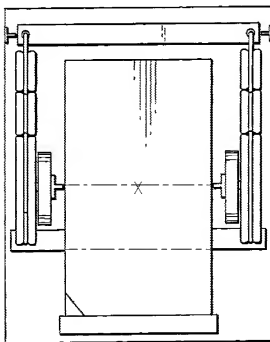
A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. **Claim(s) 13** is/are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6247557.
2. **Regarding claim 13**, Kobayashi et al. discloses a machine room-less elevator comprising:
3. a car 4 movable in a hoistway having a top, said car 4 having a front surface containing a door, shown in Figure 13, two side surfaces, a rear surface, and a center of gravity in the horizontal plane, shown in Figure 14;
4. guide rails 9a, 9b on each side of said car 4 along which said car 4 moves; said guide rails 9a, 9b being located symmetrically with respect to the center of gravity of said car 4 in the horizontal plane and such that a line connecting the tips of said guide rails 9a, 9b to each other passes near the center of gravity on one side thereof, shown in the figure below;
5. a counterweight 6 which raises and lowers in the opposite direction to the motion of said car 4 along the rear surface of said car 4;
6. a hoist 2A provided beneath the top of said hoistway; and

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7. first and second hoist ropes 7A, 7B, each having two ends, wherein:
8. one end of each of said first and second hoist ropes 7A, 7B is fixed to the right and left sides of said car 4 at suspending points 4ba, 4bb located symmetrically with respect to the center of gravity of said car 4 in the horizontal plane and such that a line connecting said suspending points 4ba, 4bb passes near the center of gravity on the other side thereof, shown in the figure below;
9. the other end of each of said first and second hoist ropes 7A, 7B is fixed to said counterweight 6; and
10. at least one of said first and second hoist ropes 7A, 7B is driven by said hoist 2A, shown in Figures 13 and 14.



Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 01/14/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
12. In response to applicant's argument, "the imaginary line connecting the tips of the rails is right on the center of gravity, not spaced from it on the opposite side from the imaginary line joining the two suspension points" due to the thickness of the tips of the guide rails an imaginary line exists that connect the tips of the rails spaced apart from the center gravity on the opposite side from the imaginary line joining the two suspension points, as shown in the figure above.

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIC PICO whose telephone number is (571)272-5589. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30AM - 3:00PM M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on 571-272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EEP

/Peter M. Cuomo/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3654